



HF Happenings 855

Volume 19, Issue 12, the week of 8 July 2019

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

Southern African Fauna and Flora <https://zsfaunaandflora.wordpress.com/>

ZS SOTA <https://zssota.wordpress.com>

Zone 38 Award and others <https://zone38award.wordpress.com/>

Worldwide List of HF Beacons <https://iaruhfbeacons.wordpress.com/>

5 MHz (60 metre) allocations <http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp>



Three Local Contests This Week

On Wednesday evening 17 July, the third SARL 80 m Club Sprint takes place from 17:00 to 18:00 UTC with CW and phone activity. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your four figure grid square. At this stage the West Rand ARC are in the lead with the Boland ARC in second place and the Bo-Karoo ARC in third place. Find the rules of page 38 of the March 2019 Radio ZS.

The Winter QRP Contest takes place from 12:00 to 15:00 UTC on Saturday 20 July with CW and phone activity using 5 Watts or less. The first hour is restricted to the 40 metre band and the remaining two hours can be on any HF contest band. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your 6 figure Grid locator.

The ZS2 Sprint is on the air from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC on Sunday 21 July 2019 with CW and phone activity on 40 metres. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your provincial or country abbreviation.

The Rules can be found on pages 45 and 56 of the 2019 Blue Book, the log sheets are available from the Contest page on the League web site.

The Worldwide Digi DX Contest

There's a new exclusively-FT8/FT4 Contest, sponsored by the Worldwide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF), and the Slovenia Contest Club: The World Wide Digi DX Contest <https://www.digi.com/>. The inaugural 24-hour event will take place from 12:00 UTC on 31 August and features distance-based scoring based on the exchange of grids. Multipliers are grid fields (the letter part of a

July

- 9 - Provincial schools open
- 12 - Washie 100 Miler, Port Alfred to East London
- 13 - **RaDAR Challenge; October RAE registration opens**
- 13 and 14 - **IARU HF Championships; Franschhoek Bastille Festival**
- 15 - Commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood - 15 to 20 July 1916; **closing date Newbie and ZS5 logs**
- 16 - **Highway ARC Monthly Meeting**
- 17 - **Wednesday 80 m Club Sprint**
- 20 - **Winter QRP contest**
- 21 - **ZS2 Sprint**
- 21 to 23 - Winter Wonderland Festival, Gordon's Bay
- 25 - **Closing date for August Radio ZS**
- 26 and 27 - Franschhoek Mystery Weekend
- 26 to 28 - Winter Celebration, Hogsback
- 27 and 28 - **RSGB Islands on the Air (IOTA) contest**
- 29 - **Closing date for RaDAR, QRP and ZS2 Sprint logs**
- 28 to 30 - Winter Wonderland Festival, Gordon's Bay

August

- 3 - **Pretoria ARC Flea Market**
- 4 - **SARL HF Phone Contest**
- 9 - National Women's Day; **SARL YL Sprint**
- 10 - **SARL Youth Sprint**

grid, for example "CN" of "CN87") and are per band, so it will pay to get multipliers on multiple bands. There are entry categories for single operators of various power levels in addition to Multi-One, Multi-Two, and Multi-Unlimited categories. See the contest rules for more information <https://www.digi.com/rules.htm>. An *N1MM Logger+* version to be released later this week will have support for this new contest, including a new Grid Field Map display to visually show the multipliers.

Ham Radio 2019 Lectures

The keynote lecture delivered at Ham Radio 2019 (Friedrichshafen) by Joe Taylor, K1JT ("WSJT-X FT8 and Beyond") is now available on DokuFunk (the Documentary Archive for the History of Radio Communication and Electronic Media): go to <http://www.dokufunk.org/> and click on Horsaal/Lecture room. Also available are reports from the KH1/KH7Z (Baker Island) and T31EU (Central Kiribati) DXpeditions.

Country Files

A typical pre-contest task is to load the new "country files" into our logging programs <http://www.country-files.com/>. This file helps logging programs keep track of what zones and countries have been worked for multiplier purposes based on the call sign. Jim, AD1C, compiles these files and periodically releases new versions for different logging programs and different contests. If you've never done so before, take a look at a typical change log to appreciate the detail of this information <http://www.country-files.com/cty-2910-30-june-2019/>.

Word to the Wise

"Country File" - A file used by your logging program that maps call sign patterns and individual call signs as necessary to countries and zones so that you can have an accurate display of worked versus needed multipliers during a contest. See further information about country files, above.

Contest University 2019

Videos from Contest University 2019 have been posted on the YouTube, courtesy of Icom America, and of course Contest University. Nine videos, including the "eyeball sprint contest" are available this year! <https://www.contestuniversity.com/videos/>

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Morocco, CN. Taking part in this year's Throne Day's celebrations, special call sign 5C1M will be active on 26 and 27 and 29 and 30 July. QSL via RW6HS. Throne Day is a public holiday in Morocco that commemorates the enthronement of the incumbent monarch. Since 1999, it has been celebrated on 30 July.



African Islands

IOTA Frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Cape Verde, D4. Lukas, HB9EBT, will once again be active as D44TEG from Tarrafal, Santiago Island (AF-005, WLOTA 0158) between 22 and 29 July. Activity will be on 40 - 10 metres CW only using an Elecraft K3 with 100 watts into a Triple Leg antenna on a 15 m Fiberglass pole and homemade feeder line. QSL via his home call sign, direct (NO IRCs) or by the Bureau.



South Africa, ZS. The ZS9V team (ZS1AN, ZS1ANF, ZS1OIN, ZS1V, ZS1VDV and DL5EBE) will be active again from Robben Island (AF-064) between around 15.30 UTC on 15 August until around 05.00 UTC on 20 August. They will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 160-10 metres with three stations. QSL via M0OXO's OQRS (preferred); traditional requests go to M0OXO direct only. See <http://zs9v.org.za/> for more information and updates.

Top Band Antennas

Steve, VE6WZ, has been publishing videos on different aspects of station and antenna building on 160 metres. He's added more on the topic of receive antennas. Steve says it best: "A few weeks ago I uploaded a video on some design and construction ideas for Beverage matching and termination boxes https://youtu.be/r85MqK_N3a8. I show how to wind your own transformers and present a few different enclosure methods. I show how I have designed and built some commercially made double sided boards for broadside phase boxes and 4 Beverage switch boxes using KiCad and OSH park. This video is part of my "RX antenna series" which includes various videos about low-band RX antennas <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLipJSm0KKo3BgY8F6NQ1DH3070C3SaUMN>. It is still a work in progress and in a week or so I will add another video about installing Beverage wires in the field, and a video about beverage maintenance."

Operating Tip

Rates are Relative - If you've been maintaining a high run rate for an extended period of time, any reduction is bound to feel like there's something wrong. A 75 QSOs-per-hour rate seems slow after you've been running at 120+ per hour, but it might be all that you can do on that particular band at this particular time. Modern logging programs can tell you what your rate is for the last 10 or 100 contacts. Use this information to help you decide based on data vs. your gut. Is another band better? Better check before committing to the change!

Telepathy

According to researchers, telepathy is possible with the right gear. Immediately after the announcement, telepathy traditionalists stated that the use of technology isn't "real telepathy." <https://komonews.com/news/local/human-telepathy-possible-with-help-from-technology-research-finds>.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 1 to 8 July 2019

Phone Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 10 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory

once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 12 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rule_s.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 10 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 11 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no;
non-Member: Name and state, province or
country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 13 July 2019
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 10 July
Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: United Kingdom
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 11 July 2019
Upload log at: www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2019/r80_mcc.shtml

QRP Fox Hunt
01:00 - 02:30 UTC 12 July
Geographic Focus: United States
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 20 m Only
Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country,
name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points
Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 13 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 12 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 14 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 12 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO
points x total mults
Submit logs by: 14 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

FISTS Summer Unlimited Sprint
00:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 July
Geographic Focus: United States/Canada
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: United States/Canada
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: QRP; QRO; Club
Max power: QRO: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: FISTS: RST, state, province or
country, first name and FISTS no; non-FISTS:

RST, state, province or country, first name and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with FIST member; FIST members: 2 points per QSO with non-FIST member

Multipliers: Each US state and VE province once; Each DXCC country once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 12 August 2019

E-mail logs to: w2dab@fistsna.org

Mail logs to: FISTS Sprint Log, c/o Dave Bamford W2DAB, 444 East 75 Street, 16F, New York, NY 10021, USA

Find rules at:

www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon

12:00 UTC 13 July to 24:00 UTC 14 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or none

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 21 July 2019

Post log summary at:

www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

IARU HF World Championship

12:00 UTC 13 July to 12:00 UTC 14 July

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - CW, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Unlimited - CW, phone

or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; IARU Member Society HQ

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: IARU HQ: RS(T) and IARU Society;

Non-HQ: RS(T) and ITU Zone no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same zone

or with HQ stations; 3 points per QSO with

different zone on same continent; 5 points per

QSO with different zone on different continent

Multipliers: Each ITU zone once per band; Each

IARU HQ and each IARU official once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO

points x total mults

Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 21 July 2019

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://contest-log-submission.arrrl.org/>

Mail logs to: ARRL Contest Logs, IARU HF

World Championship, Box 310905, Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: www.arrrl.org/iaru-hf-championship

QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint

20:00 - 23:00 UTC 14 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band, Single Band, High Bands, Low Bands

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI

member; 4 points per non-member QSO with

different continent; 2 points per non-member

QSO with same continent; Bonus Points: 2 000

points per band for using homebrew

transmitter; 3 000 points per band for using

homebrew receiver; 5 000 points per band for

using homebrew transceiver; 5 000 points for

operating portable with emergency power and temporary antennas

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE

Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult: >5 W = x 1, 1 – 5 W = x 7, 250 mW – 1 W = x 10, 55 – 250 mW = x 15, <55 mW = x 20

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 28 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: www.qrpcontest.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://qrparci.org/contests/2019%20Summer%20Homebrew%20Sprint.txt>

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
00:00 - 02:00 UTC 15 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op

Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 17 July 2019
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://qrptest.com/4sqr>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.4sqr.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf

Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 July
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 17 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 18 July
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 19 July
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 19 July
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 19 July
NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 20 July
Russian Radio Team Championship, 07:00 - 14:59 UTC 20 July
Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge, 08:00 - 14:00 UTC 20 July
Feld Hell Sprint, 12:00 - 13:59 UTC 20 July
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest, 18:00 UTC 20 July to 21:00 UTC 21 July
North American RTTY QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 20 July to 05:59 UTC 21 July
SA Sprint Contest, 21:00 - 22:59 UTC 20 July
RSGB Low Power Contest, 09:00 - 12:00 UTC and 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 21 July
CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush, 20:00 - 21:59 UTC 21 July
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 22 July

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter